

6353 W Hill Lane
Glendale, Arizona 85310

January 9, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

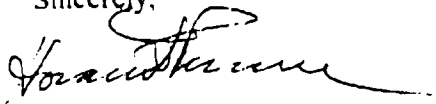
I am writing to support the current proposed settlement between Microsoft and the Department of Justice, in hopes of expressing the views of the general public. While I have never supported the federal government's attempts to bring litigation against Microsoft, this proposed settlement goes above and beyond what Microsoft needed to do. It provides for increased competition and accountability where none had existed before and should be allowed to be executed at the federal level. As a result of several months of intense, court mediated negotiations, the settlement that was reached is fair, judicious and reasonable.

The terms of this settlement include a system of accountability and competition fostering provisions that go beyond the scope of the government's original grievances. The key parts of this settlement include Microsoft's licensing of its intellectual property instead of allowing Microsoft to pursue intellectual property protection. Additionally, the settlement requires Microsoft to change its relationships with computer and software manufactures in order to allow these companies to install non-Microsoft products and change the Windows operating system without Microsoft enacting discriminatory or retaliatory clauses in a contract. Perhaps most importantly, this settlement creates a three-person technical oversight committee to ensure that Microsoft is complying with all parts of the settlement.

After several years of litigation and three months of negotiations, this settlement represents the best chance for an end to this judicial debacle. This agreement represents the public interest and that no further federal action should be taken.

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Sincerely,


Horace Pereira